

***U.S.-Mexico Border 2012 Air Policy Forum Meeting
October 6-7, 2004***

**Appendix 4: List of Breakout Session Results/Initial
Recommendations with Details**

Notes and initial recommendations are provided below for each of the following issue areas: Stationary Sources, Mobile Sources and Fuels, Cross Border Planning and Implementation, Energy Efficiency and Emissions Trading Possibilities.

The following are notes specific to each breakout session and are initial recommendations for policies and programs for consideration by the Air Policy Forum. These lists do not represent final or consensus decisions.

Stationary Sources Breakout Session

Overview

Given the variety, number and magnitude of stationary source concerns, participants in this breakout session focused on identifying those efforts which should be implemented bi-nationally and should be initiated at the federal level. The session highlighted the need for better data on stationary sources from highly organized power generation facilities to household wood burning. Impacts still need to be investigated. Data should also be available to all and more actively integrated among the local, state, national and international entities.

Initial Recommendations for the Air Policy Forum

- Establish common formats for monitoring and reporting emissions on both sides of the border. Key considerations include:
 - Compatibility among United States and Mexico reporting formats/media.
 - Making monitoring data more accessible to a broad audience including policymakers and effected communities.
 - Ability to have locally-specific, spatially-referenced emissions data.
 - Federal actors can be especially useful assisting the dissemination and sharing of data with state and local governments.
- Address tires as a fuel source
 - It is important to collect and share data related to air quality and health effects of emissions from burning tires.
 - The APF should assist localities in developing control strategies for tire burning projects.
- Develop a bi-national statement on importation of used tires.
 - APF should develop a joint statement on pollution prevention with the Waste Forum.
- Collect and disseminate information/education on wood burning as a fuel source.

Appendix 4: Breakout Session Notes

- APF should work to limit the impacts through public education campaigns that include information on the impacts of wood burning on air quality and public health.
 - Federal roles can include collecting, collating and disseminating information on local control strategies, looking specifically to existing successful wood burning control policies and strategies in Texas communities.
- Analyze and highlight differences and opportunities on each side of the border for improving air quality through permitting of stationary sources.
 - Analysis of Environmental Justice concerns on both sides of the border.
 - Emphasis should be placed on transparency and public awareness of permitting procedures and stationary source emissions.
 - Emissions control technology and opportunities for technology transfer from the United State to Mexico.
- Provide a separate forum for a high-level discussion about the impacts of agricultural sources of air pollution e.g. crop burning, soil erosion and agricultural sources of air toxics.

Participants

Idolina de la Cerda, Agencia de Proteccion al Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales, Nuevo Leon
Monica E. Tamayo, Gobierno del Estado B.C.
Shaibal Mukerjee, US EPA/ORD/NERL
Fernando Amador, CARB
Rich Halvey, WGA
Sarah Sowell, EPA
Amy Zimpfer, US EPA
Laura Selvan, PFEA

Fuels and Mobile Sources Breakout Session

Overview

Participants recognized that recommendations identified during this session would fall under the responsibility of different levels of authority in the United States and Mexico (e.g. federal authority in Mexico verses state authority in the United States.) Additionally, programs and projects should move beyond a focus on in-use sources to develop the right monitoring tools and control policies to address future growth.

Initial Recommendations for the Air Policy Forum

- Improve fuel quality and availability of clean fuels in both countries.
 - This will require effective energy sector engagement.
 - Ultra low sulfur diesel.
 - Oxygenated gasoline.
 - Low Reid vapor pressure fuel.
- Develop and implement border crossing emissions control pilot projects.
 - Focus on congestion mitigation.

Appendix 4: Breakout Session Notes

- Examine opportunities for fast-tracking public transportation.
 - Develop measurements and test the use of remote sensing to characterize and establish baselines for fleet and passenger vehicle emissions.
 - Encourage the development of alternative fuels such as compressed propane in transport vehicles.
- Facilitate the harmonization of programs on both sides of the border.
 - Vehicle inspection and maintenance programs.
 - Emissions standards.
 - Alternative fuel availability.
- Build and advocate cross border partnerships and projects.
 - Truck stop electrification.
 - Engaging PEMEX/commercial transportation stakeholders.
 - Convening high-level discussions with agencies in both countries focused on air quality issues specific to border-crossing.
 - Developing engine design emissions units.
- Develop in-use diesel emissions control and mitigation programs for mobile sources and non-road diesel engines.
 - Characterize in-use diesel engines and emissions.
 - Harmonize inspection programs.
 - Implement retrofit programs.
- Establish bi-national vehicle registry to track used vehicle importation into Mexico.

Participants

Carlos A. Rincon, Environmental Defense

Steve Niemeyer, TCEQ

Leonora Rojas Bracho, INE-SEMARNAT

Sarah Sowell, EPA/OAR

Amy Zimpfer, USEPA/R9

Bill Lufthans, USEPA/R6

Gabe Ruiz, CARB

Myrna Borja Medina, Direccion Proteccion al Ambiente – MPIO – Tijuana

Niranjan Vescio, Environmental Systems Products

Robert Reider, San Diego APCD

Christine Vineyard, US EPA/R9

Paula Fields, ERG

Energy Efficiency Breakout Session

Overview

Because of the border region's remarkable growth rate, energy efficiency must be part of any larger air quality plan for the United States and Mexico. Actions to improve efficiency range from improving automobile fleets, to new sources of fuel for power generation, to greater public awareness of the environmental costs of energy use. The recommendations of this group included requiring greater efficiency from large industrial level users and producers and taking measures to help encourage the use of more energy

Appendix 4: Breakout Session Notes

efficient appliances in households. Renewable energy was also an important part of the discussion as the two policy areas are highly complimentary.

Initial Recommendations for the Air Policy Forum

- Coordinate/advocate for efforts to strengthen regulatory framework regarding energy efficiency to standardize requirements for energy generation plants along the length of the border.
- Foster investments in renewable emissions credits.
- Assist in the early sharing of information on plants and transmission.
- Require increased efficiency as energy production increases.
- Help re-engage discussions on TEIA process including water use and air emissions.
- Explore funding opportunities and economic incentives to promote energy efficiency among both industry and consumers, for example, by providing alternatives to wood burning.
 - Engage the energy production sector.
 - Work to remove barriers to transmission access for renewable energy sources.
 - Develop policy for access to renewable energy.
 - Improve public education to promote energy efficient appliance and reduce the use of old appliances.
 - Promote clean burning fuels.

Participants

Michele Kimpel Guzman, ADEQ
Enrique Rebolledo, SEMARNAT
Carey Fitzmaurice, US EPA
Rich Halvey, WGA
Saul Guzman, SEMARNAT
Margarito Quinton N., UABC
Santiago Perales, Torres Martinez Tribe
Arnoldo Matees Kramer, INE
Monica Appel, Appel Consulting
Andy Stechel, EPA
Jesus Jimenez Payan, PROFEPA
Monica E. Tamayo Mora, DGE
Gabriella Carillo, SCERP/CIPAS
Rodolfo Anguiano, Group Ecologisia Galiotas
Fernando Amador, CARB
Bill Powers, Powers Engineering

Air Quality and its Relationship to Public Health

Overview

Appendix 4: Breakout Session Notes

The discussions during the air quality and public health breakout session were dominated by debate about the need, types and use of metrics for air quality and public health.

Emergent themes from this debate included:

- Emphasis on implementing public health and air toxics reduction projects for well known problems rather than developing additional metrics.
- Metrics describing the greatest health impacts of different pollutants and sources are necessary in order to prioritize and implement the most effective air quality and public health projects.
- The importance of metrics that link air quality changes to public health. These metrics are necessary to establish baselines, secure program funds and to measure program efficacy.

Many participants agreed on the need for each type of metric and noted that the goals need not be framed as being mutually exclusive or in competition. In fact, many participants noted that the need and use of all of these metrics is iterative. Though most of this breakout session centered on discussions of metrics, the group was able to identify some priority issues for the APF to consider.

Initial Recommendations for the Air Policy Forum

- Collect, coordinate and disseminate several types of Environmental/Public Health/Air Quality Information (pollutants, exposure levels, options for individual and community actions, real-time data).
 - Information regarding the risk of different pollutants and exposure levels.
 - Information regarding individual and community actions, options and solutions for improving air quality/reducing exposure.
 - Real-time, local air quality data should be available to impacted communities.
 - Information regarding the economic impact of different pollutants and exposure levels should be shared.
- Assist in expediting the availability of low sulfur diesel and oxygenated gasoline in both countries.
- Assist in linking air quality data to intervention strategies.
 - Existing programs can be modeled such as the NAAQS work on reducing PM through dust suppression and which utilized the expertise and data of local universities and research institutions
- Assist in developing monitoring and standards for PM_{2.5} in Mexico.
- Help policy makers identify and focus on air quality reduction programs for pollutants and sources which pose the greatest public health risk.
- Continue to work to include more public health professionals in the APF.
 - An underutilized resource includes using medical professionals in establishing public health baseline data and tracking public health trends related to air quality.
- Coordinate the development of air quality indicators/metrics that:
 - Prioritize/identify pollutants/sources that pose the greatest risk.
 - Assist program evaluation and support (cost benefit analysis).
 - Are based on “real” rather than extrapolated or projected data.

Appendix 4: Breakout Session Notes

Participants

Bob Currey, UTEP/SCERP
Alfonso Martinez, SEMARNAT
Gedi Cibas, NM Environmental Department
Hal Zenick, EPA
Alina R Galion, PAHO/WHO
Antonio Barraza, COFEPRIS/SSA
Jerry Kurtzweg, US EPA/OAR
Beatriz Cardenas, CENICA-INE/SEMARNAT
ANA Alicia Delgado, Direccion General de Ecologia
Lucas M Neas, EPA/NHEERL
Piedad Huenta, PAHO/WHO
Oralia Lopez, Inst. Tecnologico de Tijuana
Albez Gaona, EPA
Sergio Palafox Palafox, CFE/SDP
Ines Pagan, US EPA/ORD/NCEA
Trenton Wells, US EPA/OAR
Francisco Casas, NADBANK
Carlos Pena, USIBWC
Israel Cantu, SEMARNAT NUEVO LEON
Sandra Duque, USEPA-OEI
Iris Jimenez, SEMARNAT
German Gonzales, SEMARNAT
Yvonne Fong, US EPA
Shaibal Mukerjee, US EPA/ORD/NERL
Matiana Ramirez Aguilar, INSP
Jeffrey S. Bustamante, Native American Env. Protection Coalition
Mike Hadrack, US EPA, HQ
Idolina de la Cerda, Agencia de Proteccion al Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales, Nuevo Leon

Emissions Trading Possibilities

Overview

There were a number of dominant themes that evolved from this breakout session including:

- Develop and make clear the economic incentives for participating in emissions trading programs.
- Consider airsheds based on physical boundaries rather than political jurisdictions for the sake of emissions trading.
- Clarify and be specific about legal and regulatory barriers to cross border emissions trading programs.
- Develop a framework for cross border emissions trading programs before and in order to assist the development of legislation to remove barriers.

Appendix 4: Breakout Session Notes

- Outline measures of the environmental and health benefits of emissions trading programs.

Initial Recommendations for the Air Policy Forum

Short Term Recommendations (From now until the next Border Institute meeting in Rio Rico in April 2005)

- Collate and summarize key information from existing documents (SCERP Monograph, ECOFIN, JAC, Environ/R9).
- Identify and invite key players from local, regional, state, tribal and federal levels to Rio Rico. The goal is to invite those who are essential for on-the-ground implementation of emissions trading programs/policies.
- Develop a “Straw Framework” for emissions trading for discussion and review at Rio Rico.
- Work to define airsheds based on physical, topographical and climatological boundaries.

Long Term Recommendations

- Expand the use of cross border Supplemental Environmental Programs (SEPs).
 - Work with enforcement workgroups to assess opportunities/barriers.
 - Expand the use of clean air investment funds and trusts.
- Utilize APF partners to serve as champions for an initial framework and work with local, state, tribal and federal officials to remove barriers to implementation.
- Engage the private sector in the development of APF policies and programs.

Participants

Enrique Rebolledo, SEMARNAT
Andy Steckel, EPA
Sergio Palafox, CFE
Carey Fitzmaurice, EPA
Jesus Jimenez Payan, PROFEPA
Margarito Quintero M, UABC
Rick Van Schoik, SCERP
Carlos A. Rincon, Environmental Defense
Steve Niemeyer, TCEQ
Dave Fege, EPA
Bill Luthans, EPA

Cross Border Planning and Implementation of Bi-national Projects

Overview

Fifteen flip-chart pages of ideas, concerns and priority projects were identified for the Cross Border Planning and Implementation breakout session. Accordingly, many issues identified for the other sessions were included under this issue area. Participants were reluctant to remove items from consideration for federal action/attention over the next three to five years during the breakout session. Prevailing themes in this conversation included the following:

Appendix 4: Breakout Session Notes

- It became clear that much of the difficulty in narrowing the list was due to numerous and substantial disparities in infrastructure and resources between the United States and Mexico. Therefore, one role the APF can play is to hold an explicit discussion to inventory, describe and suggest solutions for addressing these disparities.
- In addition, as the APF develops its strategies and priorities for cross border planning and implementation, it will be critical to engage the five other issue areas of mobile sources, stationary sources, energy efficiency, public health and emissions trading.
- Another emergent theme from this session was the importance of capacity building at the local level. Across all issues and suggestions for policies and programs, success will be dependant upon adequate training, buy-in and resources at the local level.

Initial Recommendations for the Air Policy Forum

- Harmonize national monitoring, standards and programs.
 - National Ambient Air Quality Standards.
 - Fuel types, quality and availability.
 - Format, availability and dissemination of air quality & public health data.
 - Supplement Environmental Programs (SEPs).
 - Indicators of air quality and public health.
 - Energy generation plants, emissions and efficiency.
 - Regulatory standards for residential energy sources.
 - Agricultural contributions to air pollution.
- Encourage adoption of unified airshed approach in each regional airshed.
 - Define physical boundaries of airsheds.
 - Standardize monitoring and reporting within airsheds.
 - Establish airshed wide emissions inventories.
 - Develop joint modeling projects.
 - Harmonize control and regulation.
- Encourage and support partnerships and collaborations.
 - It is important to include other fed/state/local agencies for example CDOE, USDOE, USDOJ, PEMEX.
 - Industry Groups
 - NGOs/broad public participation.

Participants

Michele Kimpel Guzman, ADEQ
Gedi Cibas, NMED
Jerry Kurtzweg, EPA
Leonora Rojas Bracho, INE-SEMARNAT
Niranjan Vescio, ESP
Matiana Ramirez Aguilar, INSP
Christine Vineyard, EPA
Piedad Huenta, PAHO
Alma Galvan, PAHO

Appendix 4: Breakout Session Notes

Robert Reider, San Diego Air Pollution Control
Alfonso Martinez, SEMARNAT
Gabriel Ruiz, CARB
Ines Pagan, EPA
Albes Gaona, EPA
Monica Appel, IMECAS
Sandara Duque, EPA
Iris Jimenez, SEMARNAT
Antonio Barraza, COFEPRIS/SSA
Mike Hadrack, EPA
Lucas M Neas, EPA/NHEERL
Gabriela Carillo, SCERP
Trenton Wells, EPA
Bob Currey, UTEP/SCERP
Jose C Trevino, SEMARNAT